

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1           1. (currently amended) A method of coding information  
2 on articles, ~~characterized in that for coding the method comprising~~  
3 the step of  
4 writing on an object a code containing the information in  
5 a fluorescent dyestuff is used that does not fluoresce in a visible  
6 spectral range of 400 to 700 nm.

1           2. (currently amended) The method defined in claim 1,  
2 characterized in that a fluorescent dyestuff ~~[[ifs]]~~ is used which  
3 fluoresces within 1 to 200 nanoseconds following excitation with  
4 energy-rich light.

3. (canceled)

1           4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1,  
2 characterized in that ~~the following compounds,~~ the fluorescent  
3 dyestuff is pyrene compounds, uranine, quinine, flurorescein,  
4 rhodamine, acridine orange, tetracycline, or porphyrine ~~is used.~~

1           5. (previously presented) The method according to claim  
2 1, characterized in that different fluorescent dyestuffs are used  
3 simultaneously.

1           6. (currently amended) The method according to claim  
2     [[1]] 5, characterized in that [[with]] the ~~simultaneous use of~~  
3     different fluorescent dyestuffs, ~~these~~ differ only slightly in  
4     absorption characteristics but differ significantly in emission  
5     characteristics.

1           7. (previously presented) The method according to claim  
2     1, characterized in that black-white bar codes and fluorescent  
3     dyestuffs are used for the coding of information.

1           8. (previously presented) The method according to claim  
2     1, characterized in that the fluorescent dyestuff is applied in a  
3     diffused pattern to the article.

1           9. (previously presented) The method according to claim  
2     1, characterized in that the fluorescent dyestuff is applied in the  
3     form of a bar code to the article.

1           10. (previously presented) The method according to  
2     claim 1, characterized in that the fluorescent dyestuff is applied  
3     by a printing process to the article.

11. (currently amended)

1           12. (currently amended) The method according to claim  
2 1, characterized in that the object is written on by incorporating  
3 the fluorescent dyestuff is introduced into the object during the  
4 manufacturing process of the material of the ~~article and~~  
5 ~~characterizes it~~ object.

1           13. (currently amended) A device for evaluating coded  
2 information which as been coded by means of a fluorescent dyestuff,  
3 comprising  
4           a detection chamber having inner surfaces;  
5           ~~at least one~~ a plurality light sources distributed over  
6 all of the inner surfaces, and at least one  
7           a plurality detectors distributed over all of the inner  
8 surfaces, and ~~characterized in that the light source and detector~~  
9 ~~are arranged in a reading head or a detection chamber and the~~  
10 ~~device includes~~  
11           means for controlling [[the]] light emission of the  
12 sources.

1           14. (original) The device according to claim 13,  
2 characterized in that the detection chamber is shielded against  
3 foreign light.

15. (canceled)

1           16. (previously presented) The device according to  
2 claim 13, characterized in that the inner surfaces of the detection  
3 chamber are coated with reflecting color or are fabricated from  
4 reflected material.

17 and 18. (canceled)

1           19. (currently amended) The device according to claim  
2 13, characterized in that the light sources emit pulses that are  
3 synchronized in time with the detector.

1           20. (previously presented) The device according to  
2 claim 13, characterized in that the light sources have a spectrum  
3 between 200 to 1800 nm.

1           21. (previously presented) The method of evaluating  
2 coded information which has been coded by means of a method  
3 according to claim 1.

1           22. (new) A device for reading a code applied to an  
2 object in accordance with the method of claim 1, the device  
3 comprising:

4           a light source for irradiating the object and causing it  
5 to fluoresce in a nonvisible light spectrum, and

6           a light detector capable of seeing fluoresced light in  
7 the nonvisible light spectrum and reading the code.